

LESSLEY
"Strand Orientation Alignment In Strand
Coating Systems And Methods"
Atty. Docket No. 14120

Appl. No. 10/623,294
Confirm. No. 4116
Examiner B.Lamb

REMARKS

Request for Reconsideration & Claims Pending

The non-final Office action mailed on 15 March 2006 has been considered carefully. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments above and discussion below.

Claim 17, previously dependent from Claim 32, has been amended to depend from Claim 34. Claim 32 was previously re-written as new Claim 34.

Claims 22-26 and 34 stand allowed.

Claims 14, 17-27, 29-31 and 33-34 are pending.

Allowability of Claims Over Bolyard & Louch

Claim 33 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) for obviousness-type double patenting over copending U.S. Application No. 10/863,463 (Bolyard) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,893,412 (Louch).

Applicants' submit herewith a terminal disclaimer under 37 CFR 1.321 to overcome the obviousness-type double patenting rejection. Claim 33 is therefore now in condition for allowable over Bolyard and Louch.

Allowability of Claims Over Louch

Rejection Summary

Claims 14 and 18-21 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being

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unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,893,412 (Louch).

Discussion of Claim 14

Regarding Claim 14, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, Louch does not disclose or suggest a

...strand coating system, comprising:
an adhesive dispensing device having an adhesive dispensing orifice;
a strand guide member;
a strand axial orientation aligning member coupled to the adhesive dispensing device,
the strand axial orientation aligning member positioned in substantial alignment with the adhesive dispensing orifice, the strand axial orientation aligning member disposed between the strand guide member and the adhesive dispensing orifice,
the strand axial orientation aligning member is a pin having an axis extending substantially transverse to a direction in which a strand is drawn past the adhesive dispensing device,
the strand axial orientation aligning member aligning the strand about its axis as the strand is drawn past the adhesive dispensing device.

The Examiner's assertion that the pins 34 and 35 of Louch correspond to the "strand axial orientation aligning member" of Claim 14 is erroneous. The pins 34 and 35 of Louch do not orient the traveling yarn (10) about its axis. In Louch, the traveling yarn (10) does not ordinarily contact the pins. Louch, col. 5, lines 11-14. Louch specifically states that pins 34-37 function to prevent the passage of bulky imperfections (slubs) in the yarn. Louch, col. 5, lines 19-27. To be sure, Claim 14 has been amended to recite that the "... strand axial orientation aligning member aligning the strand about its axis as the strand is drawn past the adhesive dispensing device." Claim 14 is thus patentably distinguished over Louch.

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Discussion of Claim 18

Regarding Claim 18, Louch does not disclose or suggest in combination with the limitations of Claim 14 that "... the strand guide member is coupled to a module." Claim 18 is thus further patentably distinguished over Louch.

Discussion of Claim 20

Regarding Claim 20, Louch does not disclose or suggest in combination with the limitations of Claim 14 that "... the strand guide member includes a strand guide not aligned with the adhesive dispensing orifice and the strand axial orientation aligning member." Claim 20 is thus further patentably distinguished over Louch.

Discussion of Claim 21

Regarding Claim 21, Louch does not disclose or suggest in combination with the limitations of Claim 20 that "... the strand axial orientation aligning member is a pin having a recessed side portion." In Louch the pins have transverse gaps, not recesses. Claim 21 is thus further patentably distinguished over Louch.

Allowability of Claims Over McCall & Louch

Rejection Summary

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,984,440 (McCall) in view of Louch.

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Discussion of Claim 33

Regarding Claim 33, McCall and Louch do not disclose or suggest a

... strand coating system, comprising:
an adhesive dispensing device having an adhesive dispensing orifice;
a strand guide member;
a strand axial orientation aligning member coupled to the adhesive dispensing device, the strand axial orientation aligning member aligning the strand about its axis as the strand is drawn past the adhesive dispensing device,
the strand axial orientation aligning member positioned in substantial alignment with the adhesive dispensing orifice, the strand axial orientation aligning member disposed between the strand guide member and the adhesive dispensing orifice,
the adhesive dispensing device includes an adhesive dispensing nozzle apparatus coupled to a module,
the strand axial orientation aligning member coupled to the module.

Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, McCall does not disclose a strand axial orientation aligning member for "... aligning the strand about its axis as the strand is drawn past the adhesive dispensing device...." The side walls 32a and 32b of McCall, asserted by the Examiner to read on the claimed "... strand axial orientation aligning member ..." does not align the strand about its axis. In McCall, the side walls 32a and 32b splay (spread) the yarn as the yarn is drawn past an elongated finish dispensing opening 34. McCall, col. 2: 44-51. Moreover, the side walls 32a and 32b of McCall form a slot 28 that guides the splayed yarn past the finish dispensing opening 34. Thus there is no need to provide a strand guide in McCall as suggested by the Examiner. Claim 33 is thus patentably distinguished over McCall and Louch.

Response to Rejection Under 35 USC 112, First paragraph

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Rejection Summary

Claims 27 and 29-31 stand rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph allegedly because the original specification does not "... teach or suggest that the bottom of the module is non-parallel to the end of the module."

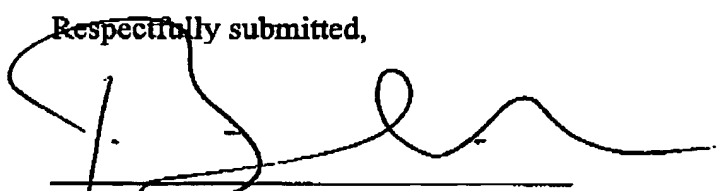
Discussion

Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, original FIGs. 2-4 and 8 clearly and indisputably illustrate the "... the fluid dispensing device (210) coupled to an end of the module (220), the fluid dispensing orifice directed away from a bottom of the module, the bottom of the module non-parallel to the end of the module" Kindly withdrawn the rejection under 35 USC 112, first paragraph.

Prayer For Relief

In view of the discussion and any amendments above, it is submitted that all pending claims of the present application are in condition for allowance. Kindly withdraw any rejections and objections thereto and allow the claims of the present application to issue as a United States Patent without delay.

Respectfully submitted,


ROLAND K. BOWLER II 17 MAY 2006
REG. NO. 33,477

TELEPHONE: 847-307-4100
FACSIMILE: 847-307-4101